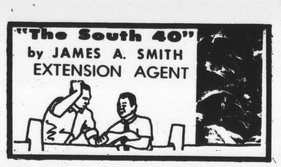
Investment time

By James A. Smith
Extension Agent

With an abundance of cheap grain and a quantity of lower priced protein available, this may be a good time to invest in some light weight 300-375 pound steers and winter to gain 2 to 2½ pounds daily. Beef cattle numbers appear to be down according to the July 1 cow-calf report and interest rates are easing some.



The first three weeks these cattle arrive at the farm are the most critical. They will need medication and close watching. Once they get "settled in", twice a day feeding will be the chore. These cattle can be marketed in the spring weighing 700 pounds.

Farmers will be hard pressed to find a profitable way to market corn this year. If you have some weight yearling steers and excess corn you may find this the best way to move the corn at a profit.

* * *

Watch out for moldes in the lawn area. The abundance of Japanese Beetles this summer will provide an excellent food supply for moles.

Treating lawn areas with Diazinon will control the grub and eliminate the mole's food supply. This needs to be done **now.**

* * *

Blackstone will have a feeder cattle sale this fall -- November 5. Consignments will have to be in by October 15. Give me a call if interested and we'll give you the health requirements and consignment form.

* * *

The septic tank--drainfield like any piece of equipment needs to be maintained. There are at least four preventive maintenance procedures that need to be followed if the useful life of the septic tank/drainfield is to be maintained.

1. Cleaning--the septic tank should be pumped every three to six years. This prevents overflow of solids in the drainfield which can clog the lines and cause system failure.

2. Vehicular Traffic--do not allow motor vehicles or heavy equipment to drive over any part of the system.

3. Surface Water--all roof, patio or other drains should be diverted around or away from the drainfield.

4. Plantings--a good sod cover should be maintained over the system to prevent erosion. Don't plant trees over the distribution system.

* * *

When buying turfgrass seed, ask for the burnt orange and yellow label package which says "Virginia-Maryland Recommended". These labels indicate a high quality blend or mixture of turfgrass seed. They may cost slightly more, but they are also worth the extra cost.

* * *

Agriculture is having a tough time keeping its head above water. Some farm operators will likely fold because of heavy debt load and low farm prices.

Jim Moore, Virginia Tech Farm Management Specialist says that, "some farm operators could be helped by getting a firm "no" from their lender." "Farmers who are falling behind in their debt service payments and thereby rapidly increasing their debt loads, would be better advised to cut their losses, rather than hoping for better times next year." He goes on to point out that, "Farmers in critical situations now have no reason to believe they can pull out of it in 1983. All a farmer is going to be doing by hanging on is eating into his net worth by increasing interest due."

Happiness is 4-H

By Frank Sweet
Extension Agent

Last week's Five County Fair was a rewarding experience for many Appomattox 4-H members. Exhibiting is important regardless of the results from the judging. The experience of selecting fair exhibits, whether they are livestock or vegetables or canned goods, helps the young person learn to make valuable judgements.

4-H Livestock exhibitors at the Fair last week were Brett Marston, Glen McClenny, Wendy McClenny, Kenneth McClenny, Karen Gilliam, Zane Torrence, Connie Krantz and Kathy Bryan. Brett, Glenn, Kenneth and Wendy showed beef heifers. While Zane, Karen, Connie and Kathy exhibited dairy heifers.

* * *

4-H members are reminded that their projects from last year are due in the Extension Office by October 15. All 4-H projects will be judged in late October and returned to the 4-H members in November. Ribbons are awarded for each completed project.

* * *

New officers are being elected in each 4-H group this week. An officers training meeting will be held Wednesday, September 29, at 3:30 p.m. at Appomattox Elementary School. All newly elected 4-H officers are encouraged to attend this important training session.

* * *

Glen McClenny, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McClenny, Jr. of Pamplin, has been named state winner in the Agriculture project area. This award was based on Glen's achievement record that included his work with Beef cattle, Burley tobacco, crops and forage production. Glen will receive an all expense paid trip to National 4-H Congress in Chicago in late November of this year.

* * *

The East Central District 4-H Volunteer Leaders meeting will be Saturday, October 16, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the District Extension meeting room in Appomattox. An excellent program has been planned and all volunteer leaders are invited to attend. Appomattox leaders will receive detailed information about this opportunity.

Letter

Volunteers needed

Dear Parents and Community Persons

In our efforts to provide the best possible educational opportunities for your children and to add a variety of learning experiences to their days in school, we need the help of you, the parents and the community. We are organizing our volunteer program to include the areas of:

1. Resource Personnel
2. Constructing Learning Aids
3. Scheduled Classroom Assistance

Resource personnel - Becky Lawson, Chairperson - 352-8354.

I. We are in the process of updating a "Resource File" at the Appomattox Primary School. This file will be used by teachers to aid them in educating our children. The "Resource File" will contain the following broad categories:

1. Careers: Farming, manufacturing, lawyer, doctor, nurse, police, secretary, government work, etc.
2. Travel: Travel in the United States, The State of Virginia, and foreign countries, (slides, pictures, artifacts, souveniors, etc.)
3. Hobbies: Stamp collecting, coin collecting, model trains, canoeing, fishing, hunting, etc.
4. Crafts: Cooking, sewing, woodworking, ceramics, or any handmade item.

We would like for you to send us the names, addresses, or phone numbers of any people you know who have interests in any of the above categories, or let us know if you, personally, would be willing to share your knowledge and experience in the above with our schools.

The names will be filed and we may call on the individuals in the file to come to classes and discuss their professions, travels, hobbies, or crafts with the students.

Your response to this "Resource File" will be greatly appreciated and will help our teachers to broaden the educational experiences of our children.

II. Constructing Learning Aids - June Grishaw 352-8329, Sue Windle - 993-2511, co-chairpersons

Do you have spare time? Do you want to do something fun and easy at home? In the volunteer program we have a Learning Aids section that involves constructing,measuring, pasting and cutting. There is no need for artistic ability. Each box comes with complete instructions and one illustration. This only involves coming to school one day a week to pick up materials and to leave finished work. This is a great way to contribute to your child's education in the comfort of your own home.

III. Scheduled Classroom Assistance - Anne Sefter - 352-7563, Audrey Almond - 248-5592, co-chairpersons.

Can you give a hug, listen to a child read, assist with classroom projects? If so, you can provide vital assistance by volunteering as a Scheduled Classroom Assistant. By donating your time on a regularly scheduled basis, convenient to both you and the teacher, you will help provide quality education for our children in Appomattox County under the supervision of a teacher. You will work directly with a student or group of students, giving that "little something extra" that some children so desperately need.

As you can see, we are trying to meet many volunteer needs at A.P.S. and we have tried to structure the volunteer program so that every parent and community person can in some way contribute to benefit all our children. We hope each of you will give thoughtful consideration to helping with educational progress at the Appomattox Primary School by choosing one of the above programs in which you feel most comfortable. With your help, it can be a GREAT year!

Name.....

Phone.....

I would like to volunteer in the following area:

I Resource Personnel....
II Constructing Learning Aids.....
III Scheduled Classroom Assistance.....

Please feel free to call any of the volunteer chairpersons for more information regarding each program.

Sincerely,
Debbie Powell
Appomattox Primary
Volunteer Program
Director
Pat Torrence, Principal
352-5766

Bluegrass fest planned

The Charlotte Ruritan Club will present a bonfires and fall Bluegrass Festival, Saturday, Oct. 2, from 7 p.m. until midnight. It'll take place at Ruritan Park near Charlotte Court House, Virginia on Road 604. Music will be by Stan Dudley and The Bluegrass One, Clearwater Reflection, Bill Bradley and The Slim Pick'n Band, Briery Creek and The Country Partners.

Food and refreshments will be available as will clean restrooms. Admission is $4.00 for adults and $1.00 for ages 6 through 12, with under age 6 free.

Bring your lawn chairs. If the water is cold, huge bonfires will be started and in the event of rain, the show may be moved to nearby Randolph Henry auditorium.

Mayberry completes course

Pvt. Roger D. Mayberry, son of Russell E. and Lorreta G. Mayberry of Rt. 1, Appomattox, has completed an Army HAWK missile crewman course under the one station unit training (OSUT) program at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Students learned all phases of the firing and tracking systems of the HAWK, which is an Intermediate-altitude missile designed to intercept supersonic aircraft.

OSUT is a program which combines basic combat training with advanced individual training.

4-Hers compete

By Ocie M. Mack
Extension Agent

Nineteen Appomattox County 4-H Youths participated in the 5-County Fair Fashion Revue, held on Wednesday, September 15 in Farmville. All nineteen of the participants placed within the top four of a specific class. The following is a list of the 4-H participants and the awards received.

Section I Junior Youth Revue - 8 to 13 years of age.

Class 1 - Church Outfit:
April Hackney - 2nd place, red ribbon, plus $3.00 Cash.
Cheryl Wooten - 3rd Place, white ribbon, plus $2.00 Cash.
Jennifer Alvis - 4th Place, yellow ribbon, plus $1.00 Cash

Class 2 - School Outfit (Lightweight):
Tisha Wooten - 1st place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.
Sherry Hackney - 2nd Place, red ribbon, plus $3.00 Cash
Gina Ann Cestaro - 3rd Place, white ribbon, plus $2.00 Cash.

Class 3 - School Outfit (Winterweight):
Jennifer Coleman - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.

Class 4- Shift or jumper:
Elizabeth Wright - 2nd Place, red ribbon, plus $3.00 Cash.
Ann Paige Nolen - 3rd Place, white ribbon, plus $2.00 Cash.

Class 5 - Sports Outfit:
Wendy McClenny - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.

Class 6 - Pants/Slacks:
Denny Drinkard - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.
Heather Bryan - 2nd Place, red ribbon, plus $3.00 Cash.

Class 9 - Any Garment by a first-time exhibitor:
Laura Bradley - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.
Karen Trent - 2nd Place, red ribbon, plus $3.00 Cash.

Class 10 - Casual Fashions:
Kathy Bryan - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.

Class 11 - Favorite Creation:
Jo Anna Layne - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $5.00 Cash.
Christie Doss - 2nd Place, red ribbon, plus $2.50 Cash.

Section II - Senior Youth Revue - 14 to 19 years of age.

Class 13 - Dress:
Martha Haley - 2nd Place, red ribbon, plus $3.00 Cash.

Class 15 - Informal Party Fashion:
Laura Walton - 1st Place, blue ribbon, plus $6.00 Cash.

Club meets

The Holiday Forest Community 4-H Club held its regular monthly meeting Aug. 27 in the home of Mrs. Claude Owen.

Money raised form the soft soap sale was collected. Profits from this sale will be used to buy food baskets for the needy at Christmas time.

Andrea Humphries was appointed temporary reporter, and Mary Henderson was appointed temporary scrapbook keeper. Officers will be elected at the September meeting.

This club is open to any child ages 9-19, regardless of race, religion or handicap. The club offers equal opportunity for affirmative action.

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QUARTER CHICKEN LEGS GRADE "A" lb. 69¢
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RICHFOOD 'ROUND' Var. PACK LUNCH MEAT...12 OZ. $1.59
VALLEYDALE TEEN FRANKS 1-lb. PKG. $1.59
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CORONET PAPER TOWELS JUMBO ROLL 69¢
CORONET BATHROOM TISSUE 4-roll PACK 99¢
CELEBRITY CORNED BEEF 12 OZ. CONT 99¢
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22 OZ. BOT. LIQUID for DISHES IVORY $1.09
50 OZ. BOX Automatic Dishwasher CASCADE $1.99
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